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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/067,952	02/05/2002	Jeffrey R. Baker	INEI 0311 PUSP	6649

7590 11/14/2003

Mark D. Chuey  
Brooks & Kushman P.C.  
22nd Floor  
1000 Town Center  
Southfield, MI 48075-1351

EXAMINER
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EASTHOM, KARL D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2832

DATE MAILED: 11/14/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/067,952	<b>Applicant(s)</b> BAKER ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Karl D Easthom	<b>Art Unit</b> 2832	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 September 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-53 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 11-20 and 41-53 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10, and 21-40 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                             | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____  |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)         | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-3, 5, 8-9, 21-22, 24, 27-29, 31, 33, 34, 35, and 38-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Eventoff. Eventoff discloses the claimed invention at figs. 2 with printed circuit board 12 having room for accepting electronic elements such as the utilization circuit 28 at Fig. 4, conductive traces 14, flexible substrate 20, pedestal 18 having glue (the adhesive spacer) thereon, and resistive layer 22. In claims 2, 33, and like claims, the resin with molybdenum sulfide is a resistive ink. Fig. 4 discloses the traces of claim 5. In claim 8, the sets at Fig. 4 meet the claim. In claim 9, silver is applied to copper as disclosed at col. 5, lines 40-50, or col. 4, lines 1-10 to form the conductive traces. Glue is an adhesive ink for claim 28.

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 2, 10, 23, 30 and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eventoff in view of Burgess or Serban et al. Eventoff discloses the claimed invention except for the carbon ink.. Burgess at col. 3, lines 45-57 discloses carbon ink as a known

replacement for conductors of metal in pressure type sensing devices such as those of Eventoff such that it would have been obvious to form the well known metal placement out of a carbon type ink. Similarly, Serban discloses at col. 4, lines 40-50 a printed layer of graphite which is taken to be or suggest carbon ink since graphite is carbon and inks are printed. Such an ink would have been obvious where Serban also discloses its use as a known replacement for metal conductors such as those of Eventoff.

5. Claims 4, 23, and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eventoff in view of Serban et al. Eventoff discloses the claimed invention except for the pedestal over the conductive layer. Serban discloses at Figs. 2a-2b the conductors 32, 34 emanating out from under the pedestal 16 so that the traces can communicate with electrical devices or power, such that it would have been obvious to have the pedestal over the traces for that purpose.

6. Claims 6-7, 25-26, and 36-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eventoff in view of DeVolpi et al.'925. Eventoff discloses the claimed invention except for the via. DeVolpi discloses a via 41 for accommodating a conductor and connecting to a circuit voltage, see Fig. 2. It would have been obvious in view of DeVolpi to employ a via in the circuit board of Eventoff for the purpose of connecting to circuit components where both devices respond to pressure and connect to circuit components, and have similar electrode structures. Further, Eventoff suggests connecting to a via since the line 34 connects to the center of the electrode pattern where a via exists -26.

7. Applicant's arguments filed 9/11/03 have been considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that the Eventoff neither teaches nor suggests that 12 is a printed circuit board

that accept electronic elements. This is not correct. The board is big enough to accept electronic elements...because it does, or it can: It accepts at least the lines 32 (which are elements for electronics or electronic elements, and other lines and the sensor exist to make it a printed circuit board) and has room in Fig. 3 to accept any number of elements.


8. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Karl D Easthom whose telephone number is 703 308-3306. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th, 5:30AM-4:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Elvin Enad can be reached on 703 308-1976. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703 308-0956.

  
KARL D. EASTHOM  
PRIMARY EXAMINER